

0 260330Z NOV 74 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE 4178  
BT  
UNCLAS STATE 260384

TOSEC 478

FOLLOWING REPEAT USINFO MSG DTG 252020Z NOV 74  
ACTION STATE OPS CNTR INFO WHITE HOUSE SIT ROOM DTD 25 NOV

BT

8031

UNCLAS

FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY TO PETER RODMAN AND L. PAUL BREMER FOR  
SECRETARY KISSINGER:

SECRETARY'S TRIP TO CHINA-1 (TAKE ONE OF THREE)

FOLLOWING IS A REPORT OF FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION AS OF 12 NOON, EST

NOVEMBER 25, 1974, PREPARED BY USIA:

SUMMARY: MEDIA IN MAJOR FOREIGN NEWS CENTERS GAVE TOP OR  
PROMINENT PLAY TO U.S. AND SOVIET STATEMENTS THAT A "BREAKTHROUGH"  
ON ARMS CONTROL HAD BEEN ACHIEVED. ACCEPTED THE "BREAK THROUGH" IDEA, SOME  
INFLUENTIAL OBSERVERS

SAID FORD AND BREZHNEV HAD ONLY "AGREED TO AGREE" AND THAT THE  
TEST WAS WHETHER A SALT AGREEMENT COULD COMPLETED BETWEEN THIS  
"MINI-SUMMIT" AND THE "FULL SUMMIT" NEXT SPRING IN THE U.S.

THERE WAS LIMITED COMMENT ON THE SECRETARY'S TRIP TO PEKING,  
PREDICTING THAT FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN U.S.-SINCO RELATIONS WOULD  
BE DIFFICULT. END SUMMARY.

LONDON: BRITISH MEDIA LAUDED THE FORD-BREZHNEV AGREEMENT ON  
NEGOTIATING A STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION ACCORD BUT POINTED OUT  
THAT IT WAS ONLY A PRELIMINARY UNDERSTANDING.

AN EDITORIAL IN THE INDEPENDENT TIMES SAID THAT IF AMERICAN  
AND SOVIET NEGOTIATORS "COME UP WITH AN AGREEMENT THAT WORKS AND IS  
ADHERED TO BY BOTH PARTIES," THE FORD-BREZHNEV MEETING "WILL TURN  
OUT TO HAVE BEEN A VERY IMPORTANT LANDMARK. UNTIL THEN IT IS  
REASONABLE TO WITHHOLD JUDGMENT." THE APAPER RECALLED THAT "THE  
FIRST SALT AGREEMENT....AROUSSED HOPES THAT WERE NEVER REALIZED,"  
BUT IT CONCLUDED THAT THE VLADIVOSTOK UNDERSTANDING "DOES AT  
LEAST GIVE THE WORLD SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO ... (IT) DOES  
SUGGEST THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME MEETING OF MINDS ON THE NEED  
TO AVOID A NEW AND MORE DANGEROUS AND EXPENSIVE ROUND IN THE ARMS  
RACE."

IN CONNECTION WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT TO CHINA, THE  
PAPER'S PEKING CORRESPONDENT, DAVID BONAVIA, REPORTED "A STRONG  
FEELING HERE THAT THE BRILLIANT COUPS OF DR. KISSINGER'S EARLY  
VISITS TO PEKING ARE AT AN END, AND THAT CHINA AND THE U.S.  
ARE FLOUNDERING IN THE ATTEMPT TO FIND A RELATIONSHIP MORE  
SUBSTANTIAL THAN THE SORT OF DRAWING ROOM CORDIALITY WHICH HAS  
BEEN ESTABLISHED." HE PREDICTED THAT "THE CHINESE WILL...BE  
LOOKING AT DR. KISSINGER IN A MORE ANALYTIC LIGHT THIS TIME,  
BEING IN MIND THAT THIS TENURE OF OFFICE IS NO LONGER SO SECURE."  
CORRESPONDENT JOHN GITTINGS OF THE LIBERAL MANCHESTER  
GUARDIAN REMARKED THAT "THE EASY GAINS IN 'NORMALIZING' SINO-U.S."

CONFIDENTIAL

RELATIONS HAVE ALL BEEN MADE BUT THE BARRIER OF TAIWAN AGAIN BLOCKS THE ROAD. THERE IS ALSO THE SUSPICION THAT FOR PEKING AS WELL AS WASHINGTON THE FUTURE OF RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION MAY COUNT FOR RATHER MORE."

FOR GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT JONATHAN STEELE, "THE MAJOR SOVIET MESSAGE TO EMERGE FROM THE VLADIVOSTOK SUMMIT" CAME FROM MR. BREZHNEV, WHO "MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE CONSIDERS PRESIDENT FORD TO BE A SERIOUS NEGOTIATING PARTNER."

AN EDITORIAL IN THE INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL TIMES CAUTIONED THAT "THE FINAL NEGOTIATIONS WILL SUCCEED ONLY IF BOTH SIDES CONTINUE TO PURSUE AN UNDERSTANDING ON OTHER AREAS, MOST OBVIOUSLY THE MIDDLE EAST. IT IS AT LEAST AN ENCOURAGING SIGN THAT PRESIDENT FORD AND MR. BREZHNEV HAVE BEEN ABLE TO TAKE UP THE DIALOGUE WHERE MR. NIXON LEFT OFF."

CONSERVATIVE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT STEPHEN BARBER, IN ASIA TO COVER THE PRESIDENT'S TRAVELS, JUDGED MONDAY THAT "THE VLADIVOSTOK ACCORD ON STRATEGIC ARMS...CLEARLY REPRESENTS A MAJOR TRIUMPH FOR THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT ON HIS FIRST FORAY IN THE ROLE OF WORLD STATESMAN."

THE PAPER OBSERVED EDITORIALY THAT "PRESIDENT FORD AND MR. BREZHNEV HAVE RAISED HOPES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD BY THEIR AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON A PLAN FOR LIMITING THE NUMBERS OF AMERICAN AND RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS...BUT THERE ARE STILL PLENTY OF PROBLEMS. THE RUSSIANS ARE NOTORIOUSLY TOUGH NEGOTIATORS AND THEIR GOOD FAITH IS ALWAYS SUSPECT...THE IMMEDIATE TEST OF RUSSIA'S GOOD FAITH IS LIKELY TO BE THE MIDDLE EAST."

PARIS: MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD FIGARO CARRIED AN EVALUATION OF THE SUMMIT BY WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT JACQUES JACQUET-FRANCILLON:

"KISSINGER IS CONVINCED THAT HE MANAGED TO PERSUADE LEONID BREZHNEV THAT GERALD FORD IS A MAN WITH WHOM IT IS SAFE TO NEGOTIATE, A MAN WHOSE POLITICAL FUTURE IS BY NO MEANS IN JEOPARDY. IN THE EYES OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THIS IS THE ESSENTIAL RESULT OF THAT UNUSUAL MEETING AT THE END OF THE WORLD: AMERICAN DIPLOMACY HAS AT LAST RID ITSELF OF THE PARALYSIS TO WHICH THE WATERGATE AFFAIR HAD CONDEMNED IT... IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO DO THE JOB IN DOUBLE QUICK TIME, AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WAS DONE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY IN THE SECRECY OF THAT SMALL SIBERIAN RESORT." HOWEVER, HE PREDICTED MR. KISSINGER "WILL FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO CONVINCE THE CHINESE LEADERS THAT RUSSIANS AND AMERICANS HAVE NOT JUST STRUCK A BARGAIN AT THEIR EXPENSE. BUT MAO'S ADVANCED AGE AND CHOU'S ILLNESS HAVE CREATED A VIRTUAL POWER VACUUM WITHIN THE FORBIDDEN CITY, AND MR. KISSINGER, WHO IS AWARE OF THIS, DOES NOT APPEAR OVERLY PREOCCUPIED BY THE DIFFICULTIES HE IS GOING TO FACE IN THIS NEW MISSION TO CHINA."

FINANCIAL LES ECHOS EDITORIALIZED: "PLEASED WITH EACH OTHER, CONDEMNED TO AGREE OR TO BLAST AWAY A GOOD PART OF THIS EARTH, LEONID BREZHNEV AND GERALD FORD COULD APPRAISE IN VLADIVOSTOK THE LIMITS OF THEIR INFLUENCE ON WORLD AFFAIRS. THIS IS PARTICULARLY

OBVIOUS IN TWO FIELDS. ONE IS THAT OF ATOMIC ARMS PROLIFERATION. THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE LISTS THE DANGERS OF PROLIFERATION WITHOUT PROPOSING ANY REMEDY OTHER THAN THE OLD NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY.... THE OTHER FIELD IS THE MIDDLE EAST WHERE THE SUPERPOWERS CAN STILL PREVENT A RESUMPTION OF HOSTILITIES... BUT NO LONGER APPEAR ABLE TO PROMOTE PEACE." (END TAKE ONE) UNQTE INGERSOLL